AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the heading on page 1, line 2 with the following rewritten version:

-- ~~Description~~ CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS --.

Please insert the following paragraph immediately after the heading on page 1, line 2:

-- This application is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/720,873 filed on March 16, 2001. The entire disclosure of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/720,873 is hereby incorporated herein by reference. U.S. Patent Application No. 09/720,873 is the national phase filed under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP00/03971, which was published in German on November 9, 2000. --

Please insert the following heading on page 1, before line 3:

-- Field of the Invention --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3 with the following rewritten version:

-- The present invention relates to a stent-catheter arrangement ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ having a catheter with an expandable balloon and a stent located on the expandable balloon. --

Please insert the following heading on page 1, before line 5:

-- Background of the Invention --.

Please insert the following heading on page 2, before line 1:

-- Summary of the Invention --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

-- It is therefore the object of the invention to provide a stent-catheter arrangement ~~of the type indicated in the preamble of claim 1~~ having a catheter with an expandable balloon

and a stent located on the expandable balloon, with which it is possible to throttle the blood flow in blood vessels. --

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 4 as follows:

-- ~~This object is achieved by the features of claim 1.~~ --

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 22 as follows:

-- ~~The subclaims refer to advantageous developments of the invention.~~ --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

-- The balloon portion of reduced expandability can be obtained through a suitable stiffening of the balloon material in said section; to this end use can e.g. be made in the balloon material of integrated stiffenings or also of stiffenings applied to the balloon material in said portion, e.g. a stiffening ring preferably adhesively attached thereto. As one alternative, the section of the balloon which is expandable to a reduced degree consists of stiffened balloon material. --

Please insert the following heading on page 3, before line 11:

-- Brief Description of the Drawings --.

Please insert the following heading on page 3, before line 20:

-- Detailed Description of the Invention --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

-- The balloon 3 of the stent-catheter arrangement according to the invention includes a section 5 of reduced expandability which is visible in Fig. 2 in which the total expanded state of the balloon 3 is shown. The section 5 of reduced expandability is positioned between two fully expandable sections 11 and 12. The section 5 of the balloon 3 which is expandable to a reduced degree is formed by a stiffening element 16 applied to the expandable material

of the balloon 3. As one alternative, the section 5 of the balloon 3 which is expandable to a reduced degree consists of stiffened balloon material. This alternative section 5 of the balloon 3 which is expandable to a reduced degree is producible during balloon production. As mentioned above, when creating a balloon portion of reduced expandability during balloon production, the balloon material is blown into a metal form that is provided with a cross-sectional constriction at the place where the balloon portion of reduced expandability is to be produced. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 with the following rewritten version:

-- Furthermore, Fig. 3 is a simplified view showing a cover (coating) 10 which covers the whole stent structure, which is normally a web structure, so that the web structure of the stent 4 of the invention which is per se permeable to blood is made impermeable to liquids. The cover of the stent can be obtained by means of a suitable body-tolerated foil which may e.g. consist of PTFE material. The cover 10 can be a foil or a coating. The foil or coating consists of biological material, of polymer material, of metallic material, ceramic material or elastomer material. --

Please replace the heading on page 5, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

-- ~~Claims~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: --.